

Improving Reentry for Ex-Offenders in San Diego County: SB 618 Evaluation Findings



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Program History



- SB 618 authored by DA Dumanis & introduced by Senator Jackie Speier
- Authorized counties to develop a multi-agency plan to prepare non-violent felony offenders for successful reentry
- Effective January 2006
- First clients enrolled February 2007

Program Partners



- DA's Office
- CDCR
- Probation
- Sheriff's Department
- Public Defender & Defense Bar
- Superior Court
- UCSD

Eligibility Criteria



- Legal resident of San Diego County
- In local custody
- Current crime a non-violent felony
- Stipulated prison sentence of 8 to 72 months for a new prison term
- Able to be housed at RJD or CIW
- Volunteer for participation

Exclusionary Criteria



- Prior convictions for a violent felony (case-by-case review if < 5 years prior, but significant harm to victim, excluded)
- Prop 36 eligible
- 290 or arson registrant
- Prison housing restrictions in past year
- Documented prison gang affiliation
- Special prison needs

Key Program Components



1. Comprehensive Assessment
2. Life Plan
3. Expeditious Movement to Prison & Service Access
4. Prison Case Management & Services
5. Pre-Release Case & Community Case Management (face-to-face from weekly to monthly over 12 month period)
6. Transitional care for an additional 6 months

Characteristics of Study Groups



	Treatment	Comparison
Age	35.16	35.27
Male	83%	88%
Ethnicity		
White	45%	42%
Black	31%	34%
Hispanic	19%	21%
Other	4%	3%

Characteristics of Study Groups



Prior Criminal History	Treatment	Comparison
Highest Charge Type		
Violent	3%	2%
Property	46%	39%
Drug	33%	36%
Other	18%	22%
Average Prior Convictions	1.65	1.55
Average Prior Jail Days*	131.05	102.48
Average Prior Prison Days*	153.66	194.39

*Differences significant at .05 level.

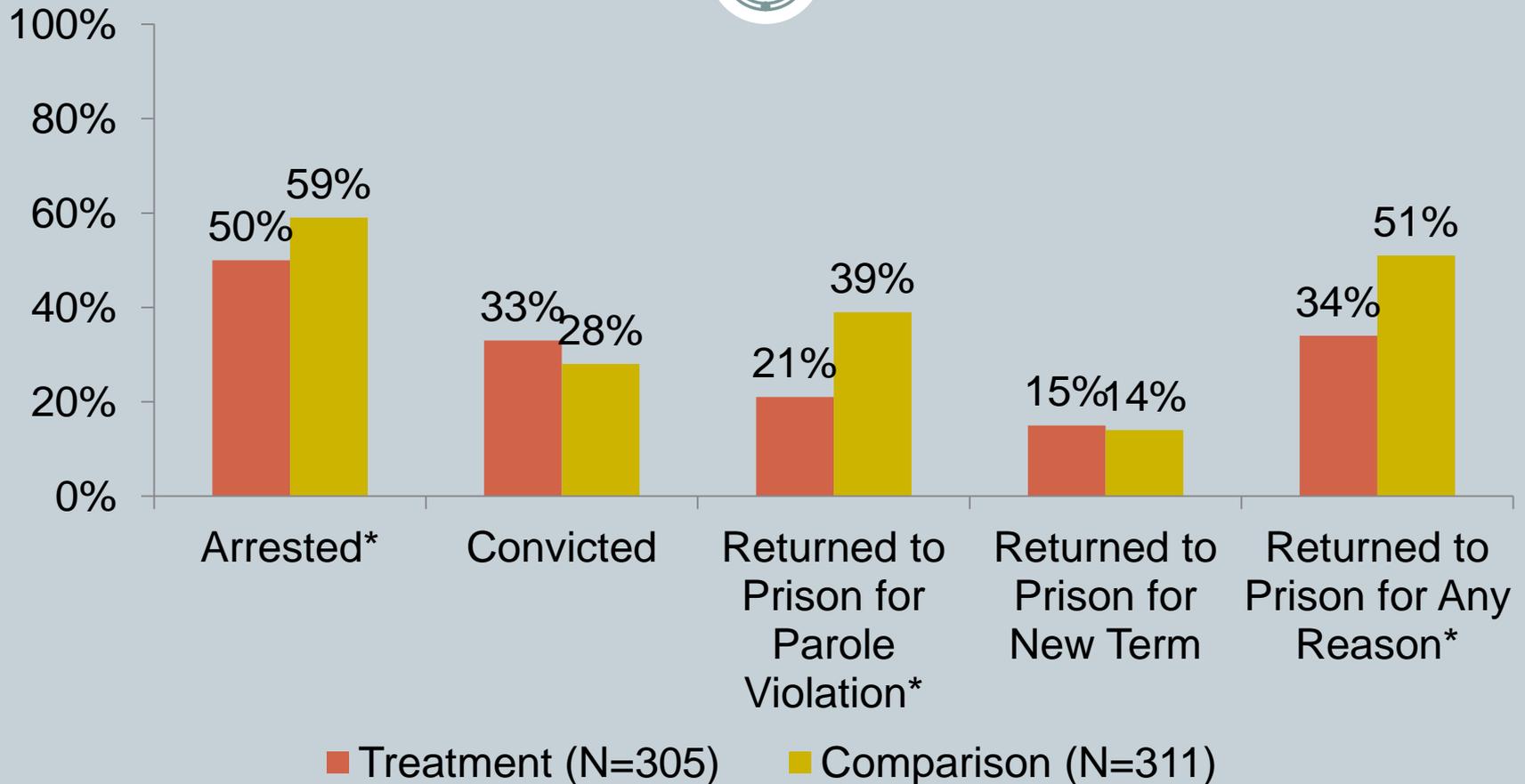
Factors Predictive of Full Treatment



	Full Treatment Participants	Partial Treatment Participants
Mean Age	36.82	31.36
Black	35%	22%
Criminal thinking/attitudes/cognitions (high risk)	29%	55%
Needs alcohol treatment	32%	9%
Days in the community post release	323.0	259.4
Total	217	88

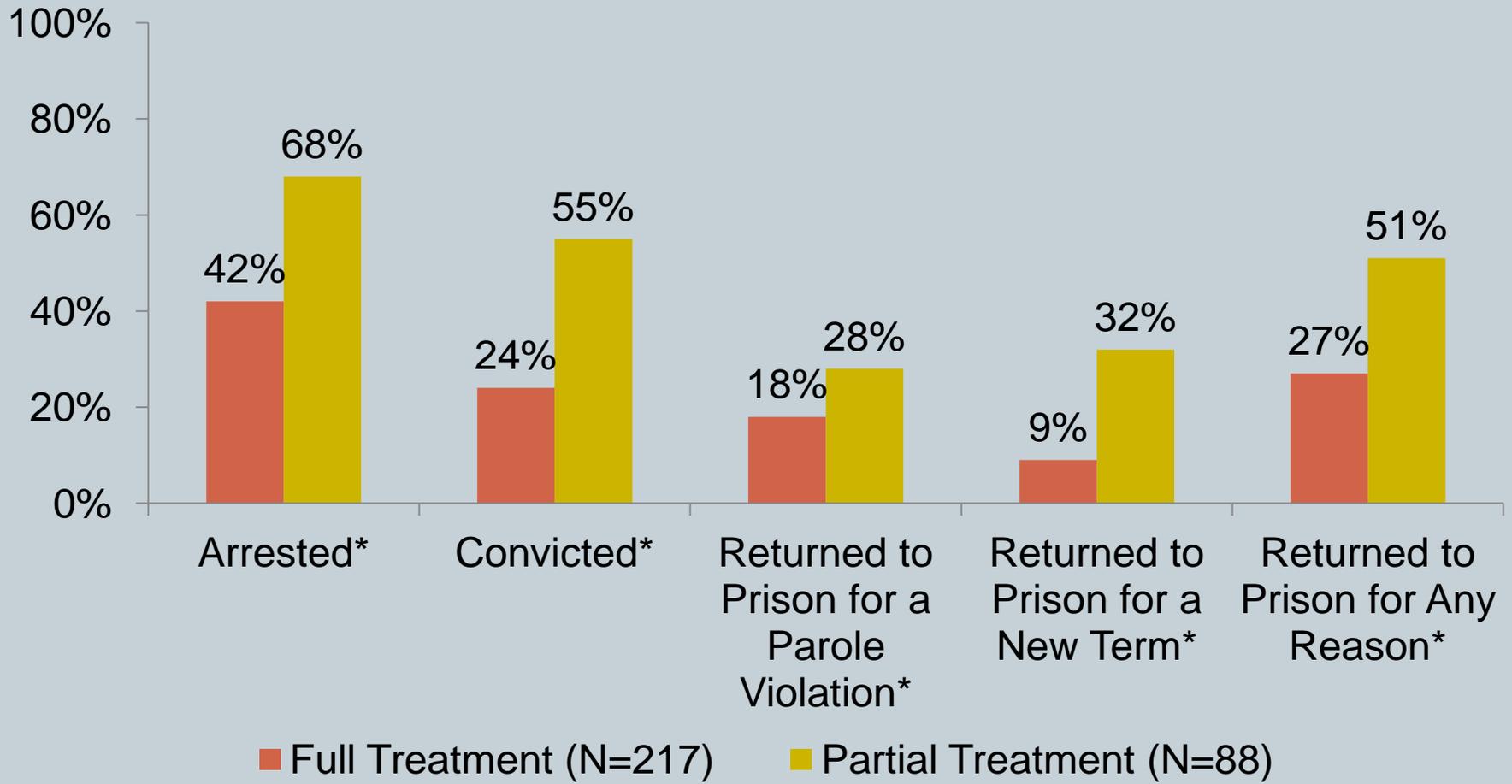
*Differences significant at .05 level.

Improved Re-Arrest and Return to Prison Rates 12 Months Post Prison Release



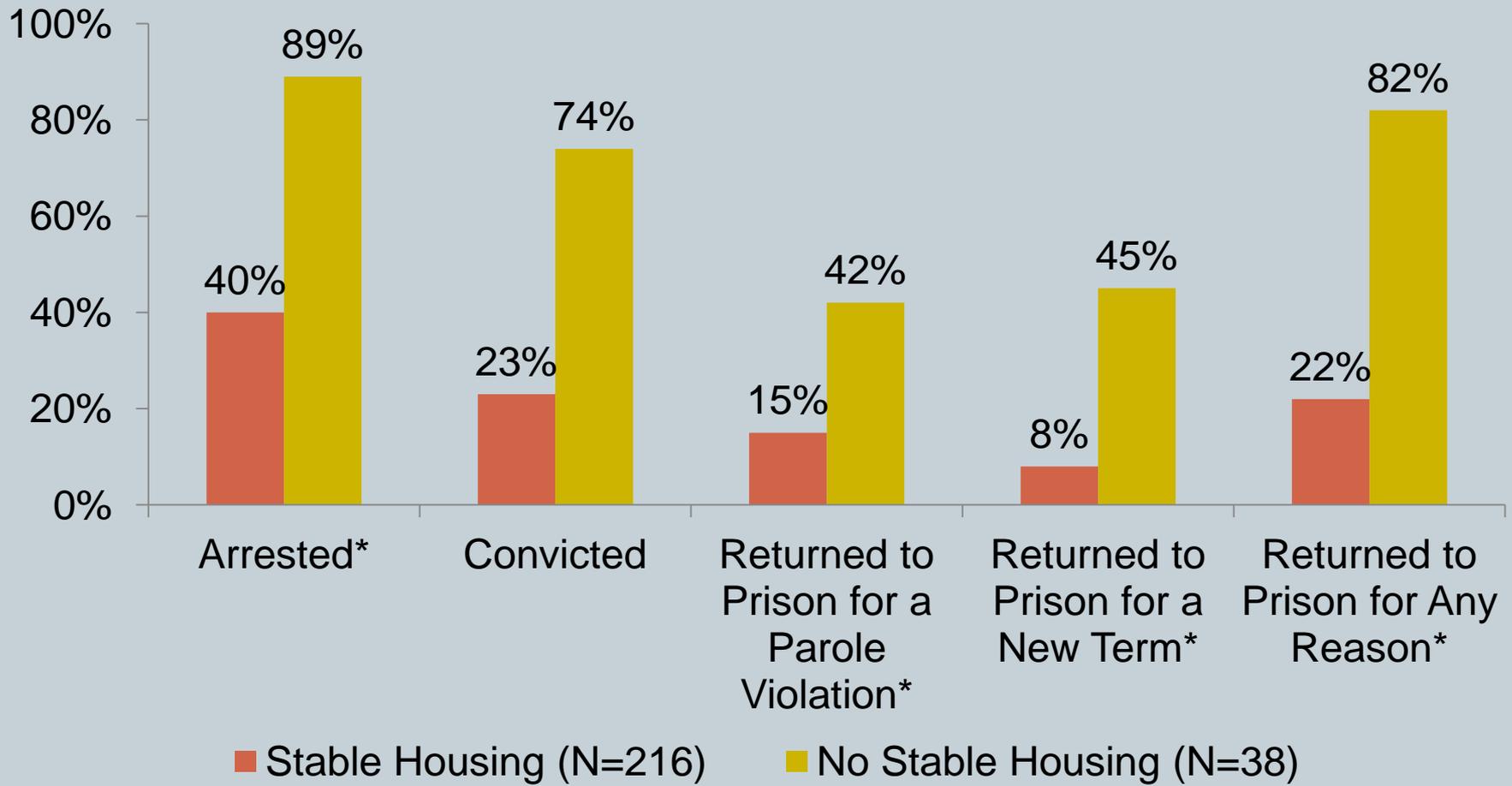
*Differences significant at .05 level.

Receipt of Service in Community Associated with Reduced Recidivism



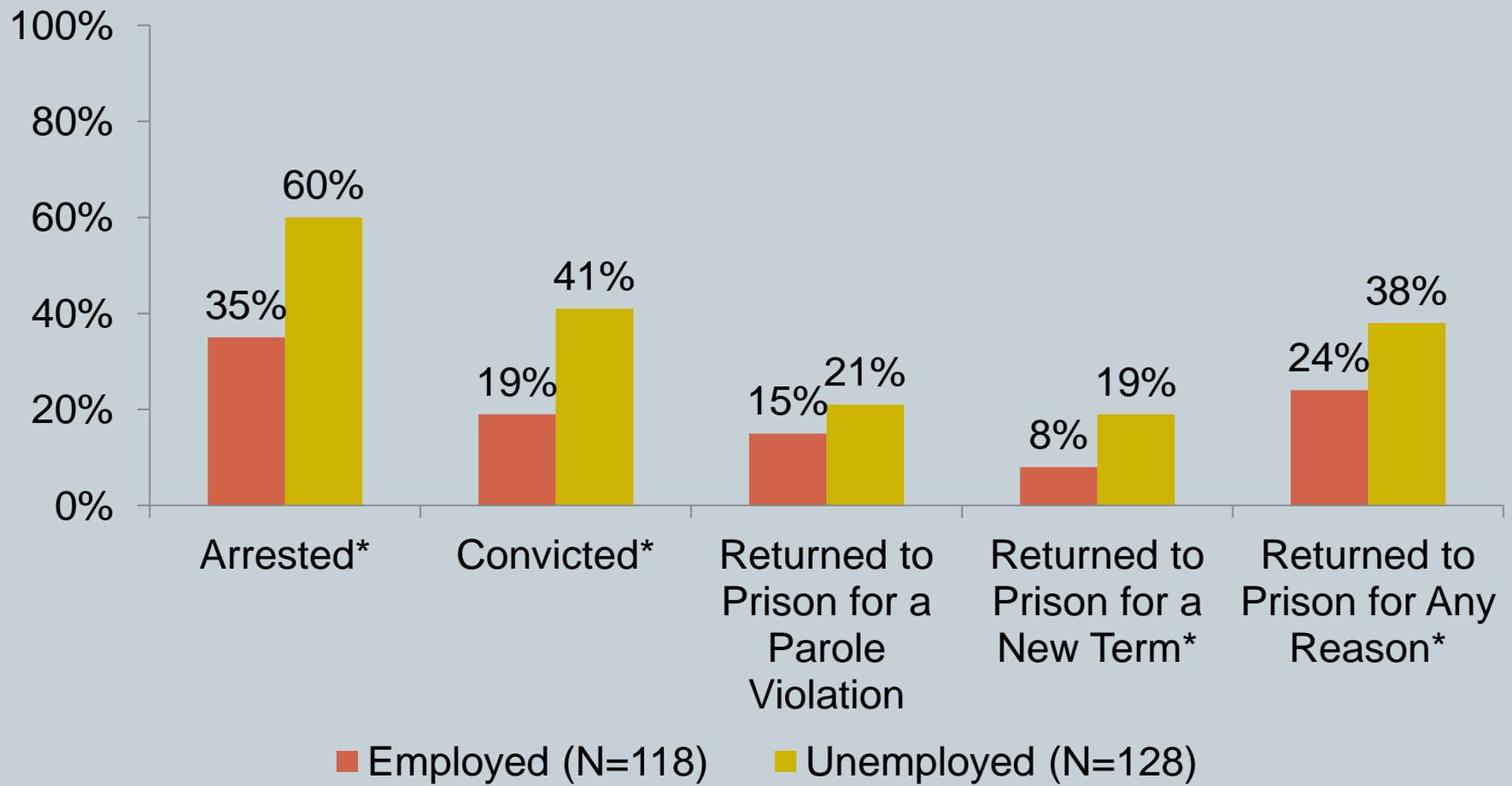
*Differences significant at .05 level.

Stable Housing Associated with Reduced Recidivism



*Differences significant at .05 level.

Employment Associated with Reduced Recidivism



*Differences significant at .05 level.

SB 618 Cost Effective Analysis



	Treatment	Comparison
Average Cost Per Successful Case	\$123,648	\$131,814
SB 618 program staff	X	--
SB 618 assessments	X	--
PCM & CCM	X	--
DA database	X	--
Other operational costs	X	--
Prison incarceration	X	X
Parole	X	X

SB 618 Cost Effective



- 33.8% of SB 618 clients in evaluation returned to prison, compared to 50.8% of comparison group
- Cost-avoidance figure based on this 17% difference suggests that an additional 183 of 1,078 program clients didn't return to prison
- Cost of prison (\$49,893) & parole (\$4,771)=\$54,664
- Short term costs of providing program result in long-term savings (an estimated \$10 million)

Lessons Learned



- Determine need & provide services in custody
- Include cognitive behavior programs
- Provide services in community that build on what was offered in custody
- Employ motivational techniques and incentives
- Pay particular attention to meeting needs for housing & employment training
- Utilize intermediate sanctions
- Ensure programs are implemented as designed